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EXAMINER

KAZEMINEZHAD, FARZAD

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/593,049	Applicant(s) OSADA ET AL.	
	Examiner FARZAD KAZEMINEZHAD	Art Unit 2626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/7/2009, 5/30/2008, 9/15/2008</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). The certified copy has been filed.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 9/15/2006, 5/7/2009 and 5/30/2008 mailing dates. The submissions are in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show server device 5 in Fig. 9 as described in the specification ¶ 0049 line 5. Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary

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to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: The title was not descriptive of the invention. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-2, 8-9, 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kugimiya et al. (US Patent 5,161,105).

Regarding claim 1, Kugimiya et al. does teach a machine translation system mechanically translating a sentence inputted in a first language into a second language, comprising:

a proper noun dictionary data identification notation_generating section for

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generating a notation to identify reading a proper noun described in the second language (Col. 2 lines 28-34 teach a dictionary means with acronym (proper noun notation) processing means for translating compound words with capital letters (proper nouns as defined in Col. 2 lines 24-26 whose number of capital letters correspond to the number of letters of the acronym) associated with the said acronyms in a target language);

a pair display section for displaying a pair including the proper noun and the notation (Col. 1 lines 64-67 teach display means for displaying the source and target languages in the machine translation system and Fig. 15 demonstrates the output and the input of to include the proper noun and its notation (acronym)); and

a machine translation section for translating by converting, when the notation is included in the inputted sentence, the notation to the proper noun (Col. 1 lines 56-60 teach a machine translation apparatus capable of processing proper nouns (in the source language) with an acronym (notation); Col. 2 lines 8-13 teach machine translation system employing converting means utilizing a dictionary for converting a source (input) sentence into a target (translated) sentence; Col. 2 lines 18-21 teach determining means employed to determine if a word or group of words in the source language are a proper noun with an acronym; finally Col. 2 lines 29-33 teach acronym (notation in the source language) processing means for translating compound words (proper nouns in the source language) associated with the acronym into a sentence in the target language (a proper noun in the target language) when the compound words are registered in the dictionary as proper nouns associated with the acronym in the

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source language (Fig. 15 depicts an example of such a translation involving an acronym); Abstract also teaches a machine translation system capable of examining whether or not a word string corresponds to a proper noun associated with an acronym (notation) and a device for determining whether or not these words are registered in their dictionary before doing their translation).

Regarding claim 2, Kugimiya et al. does teach a machine translation system in accordance with claim 1, comprising:

a user dictionary (Col. 1 lines 62-65 and Col. 3 lines 49-51 teach dictionary means depicted in Fig. 1 module 6);

and a proper noun user dictionary storage section for storing and keeping in the user dictionary as a pair of parallel translation, the proper noun and the notation to identify the proper noun generated at the proper noun identification notation generating section (Col. 6 lines 10-15 teach examining whether an acronym and its associated compound words whose capital letters correspond to the number of letters of the acronym are registered in the dictionary; this implies that the dictionary module 6 in Fig. 1 to also store proper nouns and their respective acronyms (notations) which can translate both the acronym and its corresponding compound words (i.e. performs a pair of parallel translations));

wherein the machine translation section translates the inputted sentence by using the user dictionary(Col. 3 lines 46-52 teach the translation module 5 in Fig. 1

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translates an entered source language into a target language utilizing the dictionary module stored in the memory unit 6).

Regarding claims 8, 9 they correspond to the methods corresponding to the apparatus of the claims 1, 2 respectively and are rejected using similar rationale. Note that Kugimiya et al. does teach both apparatus as well as their respective methods.

Regarding claims 15, 16, they comprise the method limitations of the method claims 8, 9 respectively on a computer and are therefore rejected by the same rationale. Figs. 10A, 10B, 11A and 11B depict computer program flow charts of the embodiments of the invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 3, 10, 17, 22, 27, 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kugimiya et al., and further in view of Palmquist (US Patent 7,359,849).

Regarding claim 3, Kugimiya et al. does not specifically disclose a machine translation system in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

the proper noun identification notation generating section reads a proper noun from map information including proper nouns and automatically generates notation to identify the proper noun; and

the display section outputs a map in which the notation corresponding character string is disposed in the vicinity of the proper noun included in the map.

Palmquist does teach a proper noun identification notation generating section reads a proper noun from map information including proper nouns and automatically generates notation to identify the proper noun (Col. 2 lines 10-12 teach a text translation tool capable of translating a source document which includes a graphic element (e.g. a map); Col. 4 lines 32-36 teach an acronym expander (notation generator) unit 44 in Fig. 2 which can identify potential acronyms in the source language and provide their translations as acronyms in the target language; Col. 3 lines 18-22 teach an example of reading proper nouns included in a map (i.e., the proper nouns United States (26A) and AIDS (24A) next to a map of the US (28A) as shown in Fig. 1 slide 14A); Col. 3 lines 48-55 teach translation (automatic generation) of the corresponding proper nouns (26B and 24B in the slide 14B in Fig. 1) in the target language next to the map) ;

and the pair display section outputs a map in which the notation is disposed in the vicinity of the proper noun included in the map (Col. 3 lines 62-65 teach the source and target language corresponding slides 14A and 14B displayed side-by-side (displayed in pair) such that in the target slide also the acronyms (i.e., notations

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corresponding to the proper nouns AIDS and United States in slide 14A) in one picture are shown in the target language next to the same map in the other slide 14B in Fig. 2 resulting in having the proper noun 'AIDS' appear in pair with its target language corresponding notation or acronym ('SIDA')).

It would have therefore been obvious to someone with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that utilizing the specialized translation tools 66, 68 and 70 of Fig. 3 of Palmquist into the translation module of Kugimiya et al. (unit 5 in Fig. 1) will enable Kugiyama et al. to also expand its ability to read in graphic elements (such as maps) in its translations and thereby increase its commercial potentials.

Regarding claims 10, 27 they correspond to the methods corresponding to the apparatus of the claim 3, 22 respectively and are rejected using similar rationale. Note that both Kugimiya et al. as well as Palmquist do teach apparatus as well as their respective methods.

Regarding claims 17, 32 they comprise the method limitations of the method claims 10, 27 on a computer and are therefore rejected by the same rationale. Kugimiya et al. Figs. 10A, 10B, 11A and 11B depict computer program flow charts and Palmquist Col. 2 lines 32-35 teach of the embodiments of the invention on a computer readable medium comprising program instructions.

Regarding claim 22, it comprises of nearly identical limitations as claim 3 and is

therefore rejected under similar rationale.

9. Claims 4, 11, 18, 23, 28, 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kugimiya et al., and further in view of Sugishima (US Patent 5,727,082).

Regarding claim 4, Kugimiya et al. does teach a machine translation system in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

the proper noun identification notation generating section automatically generates a notation corresponding to the proper noun character string that has been recognized (Col. 2 lines 18-21 teach determining means employed to determine if a word or group of words in the source language are a proper noun with an acronym (i.e., the character string corresponding to the acronym is recognized to be an acronym first in the source language); Col. 2 lines 28-34 teach a dictionary means with acronym (proper noun notation) processing means for translating (automatically generating) compound words with capital letters (proper nouns as defined in Col. 2 lines 24-26 whose number of capital letters correspond to the number of letters of the acronym) associated with the said acronyms in a target language and therefore inherently can recognize an acronym (a proper noun character string) in the target language as well; so acronyms (proper noun notations) can be identified in both the source as well as the target languages);

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Kugimiya et al. does not teach an imaging section for producing an image; and a character recognizing section for recognizing a proper noun character string in image data obtained by the imaging section .

Sugishima does teach an imaging section for producing an image (the scanner as disclosed in Col. 1 lines 26-29 and depicted in Fig. 1 as the units 104 and 105);

and a character recognizing section for recognizing a proper noun character string in image data obtained by the imaging section (Abstract lines 7-6 from the bottom and Col. 1 lines 27-29 teach characters of scanned images are recognized; Col. 6 lines 43-49 teach once characters recognized they are stored in the storage unit 110 in Fig. 1).

It would have therefore been obvious to someone with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that utilizing the scanner units 104 and 105 of Sugishima et al. into the translation apparatus of Kugimiya et al. by importing the units 104 and 105 next to the keyboard unit 4 in Fig. 1 of Kugimiya et al. would enable Kugimiya et al. to possess another means of input (scanning) in addition to utilizing the keyboard and thereby make Kugimiya et al.'s system more user friendly.

Regarding claims 11, 28, they correspond to the methods corresponding to the apparatus of the claims 4, 23 respectively and are rejected using similar rationale. Note that both Kugimiya et al. as well as Sugishima do teach apparatus as well as their respective methods.

Regarding claims 18, 33 they comprise the method limitations of the method claims 11, 28 on a computer and is therefore rejected by the same rationale. Kugimiya et al. Figs. 10A, 10B, 11A and 11B depict computer program flow charts and Sugishima Col. 8 lines 39-41 teach of the embodiments of the invention implemented as software on a computer.

Regarding claim 23, it comprises of nearly identical limitations as claim 4, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

10. Claims 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 24, 26, 29, 31, 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kugimiya et al., and further in view of Hon et al. (US Patent 6,490,563).

Regarding claim 5, Kugimiya et al. does teach a machine translation system in accordance with claim 1, comprising:

the proper noun identification notation generating section comprising a proper noun storage section storing proper nouns described in the second language (Col. 6 lines 10-15 teach examining whether an acronym and its associated compound words whose capital letters correspond to the number of letters of the acronym are registered in the dictionary; this implies that the dictionary module 6 in Fig. 1 to also store proper nouns and their respective acronyms (notations) which can translate both the acronym

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and its corresponding compound words and therefore includes both the source as well as the target (second) language proper nouns);

Kugimiya et al. does not teach an audio synthesizing section for reading out a proper noun from the proper noun storage section storing proper nouns described in the second language and synthesizing and outputting a sound corresponding to the proper noun;

and an audio recognizing section for recognizing the sound synthesized and outputted as above and automatically generating a notation to identify the proper noun.

Hon et al. does teach in one embodiment a text to speech converter capable of reading text comprised of phonetic symbols corresponding to several foreign languages and outputs the text to an output audio signal in the respective languages (Col. 3 lines 3-9, Col. 6 lines 5-8 and unit 121 in Fig. 5), and in another embodiment it teaches a speech recognition module receiving input speech and converting it to text in the speech language (Col. 7 lines 11-17 and Fig. 6).

It would have therefore been obvious to someone with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that utilizing units 5 and 6 of Hon et al. by attaching them in series to the unit 14 in Fig. 3 of Kugimiya et al. would enable the latter to firstly utilizing unit 5 to synthesize the target language text corresponding to a translation including its proper nouns and its respective acronyms (notations) into speech in the respective foreign language and secondly utilizing unit 6 for converting those speech back into the text including the acronyms (notations corresponding to proper nouns) in

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the respective language and thereby enable proof reading of the message translation process by first hearing it as speech and help in quality control of the translations.

Regarding claim 7, Kugimiya et al. does not specifically disclose a server device, comprising,

in place of the machine translation section of the machine translation system in accordance with claim 1, an automatic interpretation section for converting and outputting the notation, when the notation is included in a sound inputted thereto into the sound of the proper noun corresponding to the notation in the second language.

Hon et al. does teach in one embodiment a text to speech converter capable of reading text comprised of phonetic symbols corresponding to several foreign languages and outputs the text to an output audio signal in the respective languages (Col. 3 lines 3-9, Col. 6 lines 5-8 and unit 121 in Fig. 5), and in another embodiment it teaches a speech recognition module receiving input speech and converting it to text in the speech language (Col. 7 lines 11-17 and unit 160 in Fig. 6).

It would have therefore been obvious to someone with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that utilizing units 5 and 6 of Hon et al. by attaching Hon et al.'s speech recognition module (unit 160 in Fig. 6) to the unit 11 of Kugimiya et al. and the text to speech module of Hon et al. (unit 121 in Fig. 5) to the unit 14 of Kugimiya et al. would enable the latter to firstly utilizing unit 6 and converting the source speech including the acronyms (notations of proper nouns) to text which will undergo translation by the translation engine and to later synthesize the target

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language text corresponding to a translation including its proper nouns and its respective acronyms (notations) into speech in the respective translated target foreign (second) language and thereby enable proof reading of the message translation process by first hearing it as speech and help in quality control of the translations.

Regarding claims 12, 14, 29, 31 they correspond to the methods corresponding to the apparatus of the claims 5, 7, 24, 26 respectively and are rejected using similar rationale. Note that both Kugimiya et al. as well as Hon et al. do teach apparatus as well as their respective methods.

Regarding claims 19, 21, 34, 36 they comprise the method limitations of the method claims 12, 14, 29, 31 respectively on a computer and are therefore rejected by the same rationale. Kugimiya et al. Figs. 10A, 10B, 11A and 11B depict computer program flow charts and Hon et al. in the Abstract does teach a computer implemented system and method.

Regarding claim 24, 26, they comprise of nearly identical limitations as claims 5, 7 respectively and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

11. Claim 6, 13, 20, 25, 30, 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kugimiya et al. in view of Hon et al., and further in view of Muranaga (US Patent 6,944,464).

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Regarding claim 6, Kugimiya et al. does not teach a server device for supplying proper noun information to the machine translation system in accordance with claim 1, comprising:

a regional proper noun information storage section for storing therein, according to regions, proper nouns described in arbitrary one language; and

a proper noun information selecting and transmitting section for receiving positional information from the machine translation system and selectively transmitting proper noun information according to the positional information.

Muranaga does teach an access server (unit 41 in Fig. 1) which can access public networks 21 and 31 which possess regional information (e.g. information including names or proper nouns about local or regional police (unit 33 Fig. 1), local financial institutions (unit 35 Fig. 1), local medical institutions (unit 34 Fig. 1) (Col. 6 lines 34-43); it also teaches a mobile terminal (unit 10 in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2) which is equipped with a Global Positioning System (unit 16 in Fig. 2) allowing the mobile terminal to broadcast its positional information to the server 41, the server 41 accessing local public networks 21 and 31 retrieves for example an emergency or hospital institution information (including its name or proper noun) close to the positional information of the mobile terminal and translates it to the local language and sends it to the hospital (Col. 3 lines 19-35).

It would have therefore been obvious to someone with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that utilizing the mobile terminal unit 10 in Fig. 2 into the message translation apparatus of Kugimiya et al. by attaching it to the speech

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synthesizer unit of the Kugimiya et al. in view of Hon et al. (i.e. unit 121 in Fig. 5 of Hon et al. when connected to the unit 14 of Kugimiya et al.) would enable it to retrieve important emergency, bank or police information from the access server via the local servers if the machine translation system is utilized in a foreign country and thereby utilize it as a useful tool for translation and other chores encountered when visiting a foreign country.

Regarding claim 13, 30 they correspond to the methods corresponding to the apparatus of the claims 6, 25 respectively and are rejected using similar rationale. Note that Kugimiya et al., Muranaga as well as Hon et al. all do teach apparatus as well as their respective methods.

Regarding claim 20, 35 they comprise the method limitations of the method claims 13, 30 on a computer and are therefore rejected by the same rationale. Kugimiya et al. Figs. 10A, 10B, 11A and 11B depict computer program flow charts and Muranaga in Col. 2 last line does teach a computer program product.

Regarding claim 25, it comprises of nearly identical limitations as claim 6, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Conclusion

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

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applicant's disclosure. Lu et al. (US Patent 5,410,475), Yokogawa (US Patent 5,225,981).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to FARZAD KAZEMINEZHAD whose telephone number is (571)270-5860. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM-5:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Talivaldis I. Smits can be reached on (571)272-7628. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/FK/

/Talivaldis Ivars Smits/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2626

5/22/2009